

(Bulletin for Statehouse, Capitol Mall Employees October 1, 2001)

Department of Administration  
Construction Update No. 9

## Workers Removing Deteriorated Mortar Joints on Exterior; Added Security Measures Undertaken at Construction Site

This week, workers continue to identify and remove deteriorated mortar joints on the exterior stonework on the Idaho Capitol Building. Stones needing repair or replacement are also being identified and measured so **dutchmen stone facades** can be manufactured. Additional spot cleaning methods are being tested this week to see which methods work best for the different types of conditions present on the building.

### ***Security Measures Undertaken***

A number of **added security measures have been undertaken around the construction site.** All workers are to wear identifying hard hats or company attire, and be known to the Superintendent who is on-site at all times the work is being performed. The construction site and scaffold access will be secured each night. The southeast corner of the site has been designated for use by construction company vehicles or delivery vehicles. This is the area furthest away from the building, still adjacent to the work area. The contractor has been asked to be particularly vigilant of anyone allowed on the construction site.

### ***East Steps 'Unknown Conditions' Explained***

Following is a response to questions posed from a reader last week: **"What were the 'new conditions' that were uncovered in the underlying support infrastructure for the East steps? Weren't the steps going to be formed back to the most recent height anyway?"**

The overall intent of the work being done on the Capitol Building is to restore the building as closely as possible back to the original condition, according to **Jan Frew**, Design and Construction Manager, for the Division of Public Works. The approach being taken was to restore the steps to the original installation height. After demolition was done, it was discovered that many areas of the sandstone had chips, gouges, and discoloration. Also, at the joint between the concrete and the sandstone a dark colored sealant was used. Efforts to remove the sealant were unsuccessful without causing further damage to the stone. The decision was then made to raise the steps back to the most recent height, which would cover up most of the areas of concern. This decision resulted in re-designing the beams and supports for the new step location. Also, one area of concrete removal resulted in some stonework being unsupported, so remedial design was needed for that condition as well. **The East steps are still scheduled for completion by the end of the year.**



**Please note:** The intent of **Renewal News** is to provide readers the most current and complete information as possible regarding construction activities during the Capitol Restoration project. However, construction schedules are always subject to change, based upon weather conditions, transport and acquisition of support equipment and personnel, or other unforeseen circumstances.) Inquiries, comments on the Restoration effort can be sent to **Diane Blume** [dblume@adm.state.id.us](mailto:dblume@adm.state.id.us) You can also view all issues of **Renewal News** online at: <http://www.capitolcommission.idaho.gov/restoration/renewalnews.html>  
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